

## Message Text

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15

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 SS-15 SP-02 NSC-05 L-02 H-02

PA-02 PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 RSC-01 EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 925

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

USIA WASHDC

UNCLAS PRETORIA 5062

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFRO SF

SUBJ: SECRETARY EASUM IN SOUTH AFIRCA

LONDON: FOR HAVERKAMP PASS EASUM

1. TODAY'S RAND DAILY MAIL ON OP ED PAGE UNDER SIX COLUMN HAD "EASUM COME, EASUM GO, BUT STILL NO ANSWERS" DISCUSSES EASUM VISIT TO SOUTH AFRICA. BY-LINED BY MAIL'S PRETORIA CORRESPONDENT GERALD REILLY WHO ATTENDED FRIDAY PRESS CONFERENCE IN PRETORIA, PIECE FOCUSES LARGELY UPON THAT PRESS CONFERENCE.

2. LEADING WITH OBSERVATION "BEARDED IMPERTURABLE MR. DONALD EASUM.. HAS COME AND GONE AND LEFT LITTLE BEHIND EXCEPT A HEAP OF UNANSWERED QUESTIONS," REILLY DESCRIBES EASUM PERFORMANCE IN SOUTH AFRICA AS "REMARKABLY PROFESSIONAL .. A WELL DRILLED, POLISHED DIPLOMAT WHO WHILE GIVING NOTHING AWAY, MANAGED TO AVOID NEEDLING HIS QUESTIONERS." HE ADDED: "HIS VISIT AND ITS AFTERMATH ARE ALMOST CERTAIN TO LEAD TO A REAPPRAISAL OF UNITED STATES ATTITUDES TO SOUTH AFRICA."

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EM REFERRING TO EASUM'S TALKS WITH PRIME MINISTER VORSTER,REILLY

REPORTED EASUM VIEWED THEM "AS AN EXTREMELY IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION TO HIS THINKING," AND QUOTED EASUM AS SAYING THEY WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO "THE PRESENTATION I WILL MAKE TO MY SUPERIORS IN WASHINGTON."

REILLY ADDED:

"MR VORSTER WILL NO DOUBT BE PLEASED TO LEARN THAT  
HE HAS CONTRIBUTED TO MR. EASUM'S THINKING.  
"HE WOULD SAY NO MORE ON TALKS WHICH COULD HAVE A  
VITAL BEARING ON THIS COUNTRY'S FUTURE RELATIONS WITH  
THE UNITED STATES."

4. NOTING THAT EASUM STRONGLY MADE POINT THAT PRIME MINISTER'S  
SENATE SPEECH AND AMBASSADOR'S UN SPEECH HAD ROUSED "BIG EXPECTATIONS  
"

AMONG AFRICAN LEADERS, REILLY COMMENTED:

"IT IS REASONABLE TO SUPPOSE THEREFORE THAT MR. EASUM'S  
REPORT TO SECRETARY KISSINGER WILL STRESS THESE EXPE -  
CTATIONS AND IF THERE ARE NO SIGNS THAT THEY ARE GOING  
TO BE  
REALISED WITHIN THE SIX MONTHS MENTIONED BY THE PM IN  
HIS NIGEL SPEECH THEN SOUTH AFRICA CAN EXPECT SHORT  
SHRIFT FROM THE US AT NEXT SEPTEMBER'S SESSION OF THE  
UN.

" THE CONSEQUENCES FOR SOUTH AFRICA IF THE PLEDGES PROVE  
TO BE INSINCERE COULD BE INTERNATIONALLY DISASTROUS  
AND THE END OF THIS COUNTRY'S ALMOST THIRTY YEARS  
MEMBERSHIP OF THE UNITED NATIONS.

"MR. EASUM, WITH HIS BACKGROUND OF HAVING TESTED THE  
VIEWS OF AFRICAN LEADERS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA ON RACE  
DISCRIMINATION, WOULD BE A KEY FACTOR IN ANY DECISION  
TAKEN BY THE UNITED STATES TO ABANDON SOUTH AFRICA TO  
THE WOLVES AT THE UN."

5. REILLY REPORTED EASUM'S "EXPLICIT" STATEMENT ON U.S. POLICY  
TOWARD NAMIBIA, AND "COPY-BOOK" RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS ON  
"SOUTHERN RHODESIA" THEN POINTED OUT "ONE POINT HE DID MAKE  
STRONGLY, AND ONE WHICH COULD WELL BE HEEDDED BY SAG WAS THAT  
AFRICAN LEADERS REGARDED LUSAKA AGREEMENT AS A BASIC LANDMARK  
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DOCUMENT OF GENERAL PRINCIPLES ON WHICH STABLE AND PEACEFUL  
SOUTHERN AFRICA COULD BE FOUNDED."

6. WE HAVE SEEN NOTHING YET IN SOUTH AFRICAN PRESS ON  
YOUR PRESS CONFERENCE IN LOURENCO MARQUES.  
PETERSON

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## Message Attributes

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**TAGS:** PFOR, SF, (EASUM, DONALD B)  
**To:** LONDON  
**Type:** TE  
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